



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

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Shana Jones, Special Assistant
Daryl Fields, Public Affairs Officer
610 N.W. Loop 410
San Antonio, Texas 78216
(210) 384-7440

FORMER CRYSTAL CITY POLICE OFFICER SENTENCED FOR CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATION

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that a federal judge in Del Rio, Texas, this afternoon sentenced former Crystal City Police Officer Jimmy Aguilar to five years in federal prison for three offenses related to a 2001 civil rights violation that resulted in bodily injury.

Aguilar was sentenced to five years imprisonment for each charge of deprivation of civil rights under color of law, making a false statement to a federal agent and attempting to corruptly influence a federal grand jury proceeding. Those prison sentences will be served concurrently. In addition to the prison term, United States District Judge Alia Ludlum ordered that Aguilar: 1) be placed under supervised release for a period of three years after completing his prison term; 2) perform 2,000 hours of unpaid community service within 30 months after being released from prison; and, 3) pay a \$3,000 fine.

United States Attorney Sutton stated that "Cops are the unsung heroes of our communities for putting their lives on the line to protect the innocent, and we are indebted to them. But when an officer beats a defenseless man in handcuffs and attempts to cover it up, he is no hero, but a criminal."

On September 7, 2004, a federal jury convicted Aguilar. The evidence presented at trial showed that on August 7, 2001, Aguilar violently assaulted Victor Hugo Jiminez, who was restrained in handcuffs and lying face up on the ground, by forcefully dropping his knee onto Jiminez' face, choking him, and ramming a loaded gun into his mouth.

The jury also found that on October 13, 2003, Aguilar attempted to corruptly persuade a Zavala County Sheriff's Deputy to withhold truthful testimony from a federal grand jury concerning the August 7, 2001, circumstances surrounding the beating sustained by Victor Hugo Jiminez while in police custody.

Finally, the jury convicted Aguilar of providing a false statement on November 15, 2001, to a special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation who was conducting an investigation into the incident. Aguilar told the agent that the victim was not handcuffed during the course of his arrest when in fact, he had been handcuffed prior to the time Aguilar took custody of the victim.

This case was investigated by the Del Rio Resident Agency Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant United States Attorney Bill Baumann and Robert Moossy, Deputy Chief, Criminal Section, U.S. Department of Justice, prosecuted this case on behalf of the Government.

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